

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 20 were pending in the application at the time of examination.

Claims 1, 2, and 12-18 stand allowed.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 8-11, and 19 stand rejected as obvious.

Claims 5, 7, and 20 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 4-11 and 20 have been amended.

Claims 3 and 19 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-2, 4-18, and 20 are presented for examination.

Claims 1-2 and 12-18 Are Allowed

In the Office Action at page 3, paragraph 3, the Examiner states:

Claims 1-2, 12-18 allowed.

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 1-2, and 12-18.

Claims 4-11 and 20 Are Allowable

In the Office Action at page 3, paragraph 4, the Examiner states:

Claims 5, 7, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 5 has been amended into independent form including all of the limitations of base Claim 3. Applicant respectfully submits Claim 5, as amended, overcomes the Examiner's objection

and respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 5.

Claims 4, 6, and 8-11 have been amended to depend from Claim 5, as amended, rather than Claim 3. In view of the amendments of Claims 4, 6, and 8-11, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's obviousness rejections are rendered moot and that for at least the reasons Claim 5, as amended, is allowable, Claims 4, 6, and 8-11 are also allowable. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 4, 6, and 8-11.

Claim 7 has been amended into independent form including all of the limitations of base Claim 3. Applicant respectfully submits Claim 7, as amended, overcomes the Examiner's objection and respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 7.

Claim 20 has been amended into independent form including all of the limitations of base Claim 19. Applicant respectfully submits Claim 20, as amended, overcomes the Examiner's objection and respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 20.

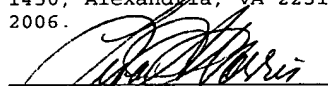
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Further, if the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant(s).

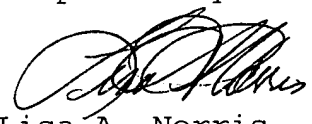
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 15, 2006.


Attorney for Applicant(s)

November 15, 2006
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa A. Norris
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 44,976
Tel.: (831) 655-0880